

Board of Health
Wednesday, January 11, 2012
Penn Room

Members Attending: E. Kimball, J. Wong

Others Attending: D. D'Auria, P. Hatt, M. Loaiza, E. Overly

Call to Order

Dr. Kimball called the Board of Health meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

Election of Officers

Dr. Kimball called the Board's attention to the lack of quorum. She explained that, as a result the Election of Officers would not be able to take place.

Agenda and Minutes

Dr. Kimball called the Board's attention to the lack of quorum. She explained that, as a result of the lack of quorum the agenda and the minutes from the December 7th meeting would not be able to be approved.

Health Officer's Report

Erin Overly, Chief Clerk in the Property Maintenance Division, provided the following update to the Board:

- 49 Health Inspections were completed
- Health Officer approved four (4) handicapped parking applications
- Health Officer vaccinated two (2) employees for Hepatitis B
- Five (5) re-inspections were completed
- Ten (10) lead inspections were scheduled; only two (2) passed.
- Twenty (20) laundromats responded to the Commercial Laundry Code implementation letters for 2011 that were given a deadline of December 31, 2011. Two (2) remain outstanding
- Billing for 2012 Commercial Laundry Code is currently being prepared

Dr. Wong inquired if the Commercial Laundry Code has been in place for awhile now. Ms. Overly explained that the Ordinance was passed in 2005 but the 2011 billing has been the first since passed. Ms. Overly went on to explain the breakdown of the fees and billing.

In response to a previous inquiry, Ms. Overly stated that Lisa Ulsh, of the Lead Prevention Program, provided the information requested by the Board last month. Ms. Overly stated that the concern of lead infested properties being owned by similar property owners is not shown.

Dr. Wong inquired about the meaning of "no show" on the report distributed is. Ms. Overly stated that this pertains to the property owner not being present to allow access at the date and time of the inspection.

Dr. Wong inquired why District Justice Wally Scott's name is on the report given. Ms. Overly stated that there was probably a citation issued to the property which fell into District Justice Wally Scott's district.

Dr. Wong questioned, out of the fifteen (15) properties listed, how many were inspected. Ms. Overly stated that for December ten (10).

At this time, Ms. Overly reviewed the report and stated that the property owners listed are not common problem property owners.

Dr. Kimball explained the issues concerning high lead levels in children and the reasoning behind the belief that problem property owners could be uncooperative in the inspection and remediation process.

There was next a discussion on the Quality of Life ticketing process.

Ms. Hatt commented that a sweep was conducted in her area (Hampden Heights) and agreed with the need to be inclusive when conducting the Quality of Life sweeps in order to maintain fairness. She appreciates the efforts of the Property Maintenance Department.

Dr. Kimball questioned the difference between the reports distributed. Ms. Overly explained that one pertained to the Lead Prevention Program while the other described the Property Maintenance Department's efforts.

Dr. Kimball inquired if the City routinely inspects for lead. Ms. Overly stated that the City does not. She added that the process begins with a complaint with the Lead Nurse.

Dr. Kimball questioned if testing is done when peeling paint is found during a routine inspection. Ms. Overly stated that the peeling paint would need to be abated but the property would not be tested. She added that if a child is found living at the property, information on the Lead Prevention Program is given.

Dr. Kimball inquired if housekeeping is looked at during an inspection. Ms. Overly stated that in extreme cases it can be cited. This would consist of a span of three (3) days to remedy and re-inspect.

OLD BUSINESS

Bedbugs : Possible Legislation

Ms. Overly explained the memo from Dr. Hassle distributed to the Board at the beginning of the meeting. She stated that his desire is to have the Board of Health's support to create legislation to address bed bug infestation.

Dr. Kimball inquired what bedbug abatement consists of. Ms. Overly stated that she is not sure of the specifics. Dr. Wong replied that one way is to "bake" the home via a high level of heat or to "bomb" the home which would consist of chemicals.

Dr. Kimball requested that Ms. D'Auria contact Erlich and inquire what are the proper abatement methods for bedbugs are and procedures they recommend.

Ms. Overly stated that the legalities surrounding the requirement of abatement and responsibility for expense should also be researched. Ms. D'Auria agreed.

Dr. Kimball expressed her belief that the information needed to move forward is incomplete and would require research to present to City Council.

Dr. Wong agreed with the need for this legislation to be adopted.

Tattoo Parlor Ordinance Update

Ms. D'Auria expressed her belief that the current draft needsto be more concise and specific.

Dr. Kimball inquired if Ms. D'Auria could review, edit, and present to the Board of Health when complete. Ms. D'Auria agreed and stated that she would require assistance with the medical aspect of the ordinance by the medical experts on the Board.

Ms. D'Auria stated that she will present the draft to the Board in February or March. She added that any questions she may have, she will present to the Board at that time.

Member Update

The Board discussed possible applicants for the Board of Health.

Other

There was next a discussion on the Health Officer position and the requirement for this position.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 1 at 6pm in the Penn Room.

*Respectfully submitted by Maritza Loaiza,
Administrative Assistant to City Clerk*